

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/725,390
Attorney Docket No. 11952-4 KAM

In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device for a hose to control a flow of fluid therethrough, the hose having a cross-section, the flow-regulating device comprising:
an open-ended hollow housing for receiving the hose,
a compression member for compressing the hose against the housing; and
an actuator mounted on the housing for moving the compression member toward and away from the hose thereby controlling the compression of the hose to vary the flow of fluid through the hose.
2. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the flow regulating device is capable of being mounted along a length of the hose without having to disconnect the hose from a water spigot or sprinkler.
3. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the flow regulating device is slideable along the length of the hose.
4. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a length that inhibits angling of the hose with respect to the compression member after a flow rate is set.
5. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 1, wherein the open-ended hollow housing comprises a longitudinal slot for inserting the hose therethrough.
6. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 5, wherein the flow regulating device is capable of being mounted along a length of the hose without having to disconnect the hose from a water spigot or sprinkler.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/725,390**
Attorney Docket No. **11952-4 KAM**

7. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 5, wherein the flow regulating device is slideable along the length of the hose.
8. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 5, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a length that inhibits angling of the hose with respect to the compression member after a flow rate is set.
9. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 1, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a sleeve comprising a channel therethrough for receiving the hose.
10. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a diameter that permits the hose to be inserted therethrough.
11. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 16, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a length of about 13 cm and a diameter of about 4.5 cm.
12. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 5, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a sleeve comprising a channel therethrough for receiving the hose.
13. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim ~~42~~15, wherein the sleeve has a C-shaped cross-section.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/725,390
Attorney Docket No. 11952-4 KAM

14. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim ~~42~~15, wherein the sleeve has two longitudinal edges with the longitudinal slot defined therebetween.
15. **(Currently Amended)** ~~A flow-regulating device according to claim 12, A flow-regulating device for a hose to control a flow of fluid therethrough, the hose having a cross-section, the flow-regulating device comprising:~~
an open-ended hollow housing comprising a sleeve having a channel therethrough for receiving the hose and a longitudinal slot for inserting the hose therethrough, wherein the longitudinal slot is being large enough for the hose to pass therethrough but small enough for the hose to be retained within the channel during use;
a compression member for compressing the hose against the housing; and
an actuator mounted on the housing for moving the compression member toward and away from the hose thereby controlling the compression of the hose to vary the flow of fluid through the hose.
16. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a length of at least about 10.2 cm and a diameter of at least about 2.5 cm.
17. **(Original)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 16, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a length of about 10.2 cm and a diameter of about 3.2 cm.
18. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the longitudinal slot has a width of about 1.9 cm and a length of about 10.2 cm.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/725,390
Attorney Docket No. 11952-4 KAM

19. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the open-ended hollow housing is curved.
20. **(Original)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 19, wherein the open-ended hollow housing is curved at an angle of greater than about 135° and less than about 180°.
21. **(Original)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 19, wherein the open-ended hollow housing is curved at an angle of about 135° to about 150°.
22. **(Original)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 19, wherein the curved open-ended hollow housing has a length of about 7 cm and a diameter of about 3.2 cm.
23. **(Original)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 19, wherein the longitudinal slot has a width of about 1.9 cm and a length of about 7 cm.
24. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 5, wherein the open-ended hollow housing is capable of moving from an opened position, wherein the hose is insertable through the longitudinal slot, to a closed position, wherein the hose is retainable therein.
25. **(Currently Amended)** ~~A flow-regulating device according to claim 24, A flow-regulating device for a hose to control a flow of fluid therethrough, the hose having a cross-section, the flow-regulating device comprising:~~
an open-ended hollow housing comprising a longitudinal slot for inserting the hose therethrough, wherein the open-ended hollow housing comprises a resilient material that biases the housing to a closed position, and is capable of moving from an

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/725,390
Attorney Docket No. 11952-4 KAM

opened position, wherein the hose is insertable through the longitudinal slot, to a closed position, wherein the hose is retainable therein;

a compression member for compressing the hose against the housing; and
an actuator mounted on the housing for moving the compression member toward and away from the hose thereby controlling the compression of the hose to vary the flow of fluid through the hose.

26. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 24, wherein the open-ended hollow housing further comprises an upper portion and a lower portion, the upper portion having a first and a second longitudinal edge and the lower portion having a first and a second longitudinal edge, a first slot defined between the first longitudinal edge of the upper portion and the first longitudinal edge of the lower portion, a second slot defined between the second longitudinal edge of the upper portion and the second longitudinal edge of the lower portion, and a hinge joins the upper portion, proximate the first longitudinal edge, to the lower portion, proximate the first longitudinal edge.

27. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 24, wherein the open-ended hollow housing further comprises an upper portion and a lower portion, the upper portion having a first and a second longitudinal edge and the lower portion having a first and a second longitudinal edge, a first slot defined between the first longitudinal edge of the upper portion and the first longitudinal edge of the lower portion, a second slot defined between the second longitudinal edge of the upper portion and the second longitudinal edge of the lower portion, and a biasing member joins the upper portion, proximate the first longitudinal edge, to the lower portion, proximate the first longitudinal edge.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/725,390**
Attorney Docket No. **11952-4 KAM**

28. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 26, wherein the open-ended hollow housing further comprises a releasable lock for releasably locking the upper portion and the lower portion of the open-ended hollow housing.
29. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 24, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a C-shaped cross-section and further comprises an upper portion and a lower portion, the upper portion having a longitudinal edge and the lower portion having a longitudinal edge, a slot defined between the longitudinal edge of the upper portion and the longitudinal edge of the lower portion, and an integral hinge joins the upper portion to the lower portion.
30. **(Original)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 29, wherein the open-ended hollow housing further comprises a releasable lock for releasably locking the upper portion and the lower portion of the open-ended hollow housing.
31. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the actuator comprises an adjuster knob coupled to a threaded shaft.
32. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 25, wherein the actuator comprises an adjuster knob coupled to a threaded shaft.
33. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein an actuator comprises an adjuster knob integrally coupled to a threaded shaft.
34. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 25, wherein an actuator comprises an adjuster knob integrally coupled to a threaded shaft.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/725,390**
Attorney Docket No. **11952-4 KAM**

35. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the compression member is cylindrical with a flat end and a curved end.
36. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 25, wherein the compression member is cylindrical with a flat end and a curved end.
37. **(Original)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 31, wherein the adjuster knob is coupled to a first end of the threaded shaft and the compression member is coupled to a second end of the threaded shaft.
- ~~37~~38. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 32, wherein the adjuster knob is coupled to a first end of the threaded shaft and the compression member is coupled to a second end of the threaded shaft.
- ~~38~~39. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 33, wherein the adjuster knob is integrally coupled to a first end of the threaded shaft and the compression member is coupled to a second end of the threaded shaft.
- ~~39~~40. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 34, wherein the adjuster knob is integrally coupled to a first end of the threaded shaft and the compression member is coupled to a second end of the threaded shaft.
- ~~40~~41. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 35, wherein the curved end of the compression member is capable of contacting the hose.
- ~~41~~42. **(Currently Amended)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the compression member rotates relative to the actuator.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/725,390**
Attorney Docket No. **11952-4 KAM**

4243. (Currently Amended) A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the device further comprises a guide bracket for mounting the actuator to the housing.

4344. (Currently Amended) A flow-regulating device according to claim 42, wherein the guide bracket is integral with the housing.

4445. (Currently Amended) A flow-regulating device according to claim 37, wherein the device further comprises a guide bracket for mounting the actuator to the housing, the guide bracket comprising a threaded aperture for receiving the threaded shaft of the actuator for controlled radial movement of the compression member.

4546. (Currently Amended) A flow-regulating device according to claim 44, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a sleeve comprising a channel therethrough, the guide bracket being coupled or integrally coupled to the outside of the sleeve, external to the channel, the guide bracket housing the compression member when the actuator is in an opened position.

4647. (Currently Amended) A flow-regulating device according to claim 45, wherein the sleeve has an aperture for permitting the compression member to pass therethrough into the channel.

48. (Currently Amended) A flow-regulating device according to claim 15, wherein the device is made from at least one of metal, metal alloy, and plastic.

49. (Currently Amended) A flow-regulating device according to claim 15 mounted to the hose.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/725,390**
Attorney Docket No. **11952-4 KAM**

50. **(Cancelled)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 5 mounted to the hose.

51. **(New)** A flow-regulating device according to claim 25, wherein the open-ended hollow housing has a C-shaped cross-section and further comprises an upper portion and a lower portion, the upper portion having a longitudinal edge and the lower portion having a longitudinal edge, the longitudinal slot being defined between the longitudinal edge of the upper portion and the longitudinal edge of the lower portion.